

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EB-03 ISO-00 SS-14 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01 PM-03 DODE-00 USIA-01 PRS-01 SAM-01

MC-01 ACDA-05 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:SFPATRICK/MPH

APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

EB/CSB/OCA:AWALLACE

AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

AF/EP:RDUNCAN

AF: EWMULCAHY

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R 030006Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 051150

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, AO

SUBJECT: U.S. COMMERCIAL CONTACTS WITH ANGOLA

REF: A. LAGOS 2388, B. LAGOS 2024

1. U.S. POLICY ON QUESTION OF COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION WITH ANGOLA IS THAT THERE IS NO PROHIBITION AGAINST U.S. CONCERNS TRADING WITH ANGOLA EXCEPT IN AREAS WHERE MILITARY GOODS, OR ITEMS HAVING A MILITARY APPLICATION, ARE CONCERNED. THESE WILL BE JUDGED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. WE WOULD PUT NO IMPEDIMENT IN THE WAY OF A PRIVATE COMMERCIAL SALE OF FOODSTUFFS TO ANGOLA. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION USE OF NON-AMERICAN AIRCRAFT BUT AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT APPROVE USE OF U.S. REGISTERED AIRCRAFT FOR TRANSPORT TO
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ANGOLA. WE ARE PRESENTLY NOT WILLING TO ENTER INTO ANY

BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE MPLA THAT WOULD IMPLY RECOGNITION OF THAT GROUP. YOU MAY INFORM ADEKUNLE OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES OF THIS POSITION.

2. AS NOTED IN WIRELESS FILE OF FEBRUARY 26, U.S. HAS CONTRIBUTED TO DISASTER RELIEF WITHIN ANGOLA, AND STANDS READY TO DONATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS AND FOOD TO EASE THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEES IN ANGOLA. WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF PROVIDING BILATERAL AID OF ANY TYPE TO ANGOLA AT THIS TIME.

3. DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES ANGOLA HAS CONTINUING COMMERCIAL CONTACT WITH U.S. PRIVATE SECTOR. USG HAS PERMITTED EXPORT OF THE TWO 737 JET AIRCRAFT PURCHASED BY ANGOLAN AIRLINES. WE CONTINUE TO PERMIT BOEING TO PUT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM IN ANGOLA. ALSO USG HAS NOT DISCOURAGED GULF FROM ENTERING CONVERSATIONS LEADING TO REESTABLISHMENT ITS OPERATIONS IN ANGOLA.

4. AMERICAN MIDDLEMAN MENTIONED REF B CAME TO AF/W AT HIS REQUEST MARCH 1. HE SAID HE HAD 110,000 POUNDS OF SUGAR, SALT, FLOUR, EVAPORATED MILK AND RICE READY FOR AIR SHIPMENT TO ANGOLA AS SOON AS CONFIRMATION OF PAYMENT RECEIVED FROM ADEKUNLE. HE EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO PROCURE NECESSARY FOODSTUFFS FROM U.S. COMMERCIAL MARKET WITHOUT DIFFICULTY AND IN ANY QUANTITY ORDERED. HE PLANS TO USE DC-10'S REGISTERED IN EUROPE.
WHEN WE EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT ANGOLA WOULD WISH THESE RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE FOODSTUFFS TO BE FLOWN IN, OUR CONTACT SAID ONLY THAT MPLA WISHED TO BE SEEN TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

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